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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| INVENTORS: Leo A. Whiteside | GROUP: |
| PATENT NO.: U. S. Patent 5,766,260 | EXAMINER: |
| ISSUED: June 16, 1998 | |
| FOR: Acetabular Component With Improved Liner Seal and Lock | |

St. Louis, Missouri
June 13, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

As an Amendment to the United States Patent 5,766,260 in the Reissue Application for that patent, applicant requests entry of the following amendments:

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) 1. A prosthesis [An acetabular component] comprising:

[an acetabular] a shell, said shell including at least one screw hole formed therein,
said shell including a smooth inner sealing surface; and

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